



5-10-1906

The Independent, V. 31, Thursday, May 10, 1906, [Whole Number: 1610]

The Independent

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THE
INDEPENDENT
Published Every Thursday.
COLLEGEVILLE, MONTG. CO., PA.
E. S. MOSER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
THURSDAY, MAY 10, 1906.

SUPREME COURT JUDGE STEWART has positively declined to accept the Republican nomination for Governor. A strong effort is being made to unite Lincolmites and Regulars.

FOR the first time since 1879 the State Treasury is in charge of a Democrat, William H. Berry having assumed the duties of the office on Monday.

LAST week the New York Senate passed a bill giving the ballot to women taxpayers in third-class cities of that State. Score one for woman suffrage and help to persuade the Pennsylvania Legislature, by and by, to do as well as the New York Senate has done, and better!

SINCE Honorable Joseph Thomas, editor of the Bristol Gazette, has finished "wading through" a current text book of Christian Science without exhibiting any signs of paresis, the editor of the INDEPENDENT is most fully persuaded that the gray matter within Brother Joe's cranium is o. k. in its convolutions, texture, and vibratory movements.

THE Chicago mail train and the Chicago and St. Louis express, running at full speed on the Pennsylvania Railroad, met head-on on the Petersburg cut-off, eighteen miles from Altoona, Friday night. Ten persons were killed, a number seriously injured, and both locomotives, the express and mails cars, and several passenger coaches were demolished.

LAST Friday President Roosevelt denounced, with his usual emphasis of expression, the Standard Oil Company, declaring that it has fattened to the extent of millions on secret rebates obtained from railroad companies. In a special message to Congress the President suggests that the Government examine railroads as thoroughly as it examines national banks; that railroad rates be fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission, subject to court review; that the railroads be permitted to combine to protect themselves against great industrial corporations; that alcohol be placed on the free list; that the remaining Government oil lands be carefully protected. Every suggestion stated is entirely in keeping with a sound governmental policy.

THE members of the Montgomery County Bar, irrespective of political affiliations, have in a public manner endorsed the candidacy of Mr. A. D. Hallman for renomination for Prothonotary, subject to Republican rules. This endorsement is to be regarded as a weighty and deserved tribute to the efficiency and courtesy of the present chief incumbent of the Prothonotary's office. It is also to be accepted, indirectly at least, as evidence of the competency of Colonel L. M. Kelly, who has been for some years past employed in discharging sundry duties in a prominent quarter of the temple of justice and of public affairs at the Hub. To grow in usefulness, as well as in avoirdupois, appears to be quite in line with the destiny of some public servants.

GOVERNOR PENNYPACKER last week added another illuminating page to the history of his notable administration as Chief Executive of the State when he issued a proclamation with reference to the then existing situation in the coal fields. The Governor's paper included the following sane and indisputable sentences: "Every man is entitled to labor and get for his labor the highest compensation he can lawfully secure. There is no law to compel him to labor unless he so choose, and he may cease to labor whenever he considers it to be to his interest to cease. * * * What he earns belongs to him, and if he invests his earnings the law protects his property, just as the rights of property of all men must be protected. He has no right to interfere with another man who may want to labor." In conclusion the Governor said: "Violence has no place among us and will not be tolerated." Well done, Governor.

IT is very good news to coal consumers to be informed that representatives of the coal operators and of the miners met in New York on Monday and signed a joint agreement providing that the award of the Anthracite Coal Commission shall prevail for the second period of three years. It was also agreed that all mine employees shall be restored to their old positions except such as have been guilty of violence to person or property. This agreement was ratified by the miners' convention at Scranton, Tuesday. A reduction of 40 cents per ton of coal has been announced by both the Lehigh Valley and the Reading Companies, which brings the price of domestic coal down to the normal figure of \$6.35. It is an important fact that the agreement above referred to is the first agreement ever entered into by the representatives of the miners and the operators. The strike of 1902 was settled by the award handed down by the Strike Commission. The settlement effected Monday was by an agreement entered into directly by a committee of the miners and a committee of the operators, and though the miners accept a defeat they feel that they have received a practical recognition of their union.

WITH more or less diffidence the editor of the INDEPENDENT respectfully admonishes the editor of the Bristol Courier not to expect too much of Science, with relation to explanatory facts as to the cause or causes of earthquakes, as well as of many other phenomena. Since scientists have thus far been unable to explore the interior of the earth, it is hardly rational to assume their knowledge to be either very satisfactory or final as to the exact cause of the quakings of the earth. They know more about other masses of matter in space than they do about the interior of the planet upon which we live. Because Science is not able to solve all the mysteries perceived by the human brain it is easy for some good people not to take into full account the demonstrable, systematized knowledge which science has revealed and placed upon a very firm basis. If the editor of the Courier will compare the effort and cash expended within the historical period in scientific investigation and the spread of scientific knowledge with the prodigious effort and expenditure of funds devoted to the creation and propagation of mere assumptions, he may wonder at what Science has achieved rather than at what it happens not to be able to explain! By the way, will the editor of the Courier define the difference between "intellectual" and "spiritual" perceptions?

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3, 1906.—The President whose creed is the "Square Deal" also knows when to play his cards and the last and highest one in his fight for a railroad rate bill is about to be thrown on the Senate table. It is reported in Congressional circles that it is to be a winner too. The report of the Department of Commerce and Labor's investigation of the Standard Oil Company will be sent to Congress this week. It contains evidence of the most direct and voluminous sort that rebates, suppressions of competition, preferential rates and objectionable methods of the Oil Trust have been practiced and information given that will prove the basis of prosecutions of the most sensational kind involving the powerful oil concerns, their subordinate companies known as the "Independents." The report is made just on the eve of the vote on the rate bill, and it is believed has been held back purposely until this time in order that it might be used most effectively to help force the rate bill through the Senate. One of the first and most startling effects of the publicity given the report is the change of heart observed in Senator Aldrich, leader of the anti-regulation forces and friend of all the trusts. Instead of opposing a vote on the rate bill he has since the announcement of the report been one of the most eager advocates of an early vote, realizing that his chance of success in the rate fight will be much less after the public and the Senate have had opportunity to read the report. Friends of the bill are elated over the prospects of its early enactment, and the amendments will be pushed with added vigor. By Friday all of the speeches on the bill will have been concluded and the voting on the amendments will be begun. It is predicted that the bill will come to a vote about the tenth of this month.

A movement has been started in Congress looking to the payment by the Government of the traveling expenses of the President. The idea that the President should be the guest of the railroads or pay his traveling expenses out of his own pocket does not commend itself to a number of Congressmen and a measure providing that the Government should assume the traveling expenses of the President has been introduced by Mr. Littauer of New York. It is proposed that Congress shall each year make an appropriation for such expenses. President Roosevelt, it is said, does not expect to do much traveling during the remainder of his administration. Up to this time though he has been the greatest traveler who has ever occupied the President's chair. President McKinley traveled widely during his administrations but President Roosevelt has nearly doubled his record with the unique distinction added of being the only President who has ever been out of the country during his incumbency. This was on the occasion of his coast trip by sea when he came from New Orleans after his Southern trip. It is believed that his example of visiting every portion of the country will be followed by future Presidents and that an appropriation for their traveling expenses should be made by Congress. After all the discussion for and against the distribution of seeds free to the farmers, the House has decided the farmer will get his seeds. By a vote of 153 to 58 the matter was decided and the momentous question settled. No appropriation bill introduced this session has aroused more interest and is of such vital concern to the country as a whole as has been passed or rejected with less argument and feeling than has been accorded the seed question. Matters involving reforms in administration of public affairs have been given but perfunctory attention but the free seed proposition has called forth bitter debate and a fight in which many members have taken part. The millions who are crying for free seeds have been protected by the patriots and if the votes are delivered with as much enthusiasm as the Representatives have shown in their struggle to obtain the seeds every one of 153 members is sure of re-election. As a matter of fact many Congressmen who voted for the bill believe that it is a system of graft practiced on the Government but constituents are irrational beings who would rather pay higher taxes and appear to get something for nothing than to buy their own seeds. Three hundred thousand dollars and more of the Government's money goes annually into the free seed force. The seeds cost the Government more than any man would have to pay for them buying them of dealers; they clog the mails and make the postal service of the country more expensive. The post office has never been able to pay its way and the appropriations made by Congress are enormous. Of course the people pay for this but what of it if they get a few packages of seeds of doubtful character and age and for which the majority have no use. Perhaps the farmers do use their seeds but what of the great numbers who are deluged with seeds who have no farms nor back yards?

The press of the country has unsparingly condemned the free seed graft for a number of years and especially the Agricultural press has been seriously opposed to it. It has been almost unanimous against the practice and those members who have voted for free seeds

in the face of the resolutions against them adopted by their State Granges may reasonably expect to be called to account for it. Free denaturalized alcohol which means prosperity for the West and benefits for every section is going to have a hard time in the Senate. Messrs. Aldrich and Hale and Lodge have shown their purpose to impede it as much as possible and should the bill be reported there are probably enough representatives of the Standard Oil and Coal Companies in the Senate to defeat it. As a means of slow death rather than quick murder a committee has been appointed to conduct hearings on the bill. Scarcely any proposition ever survives this prolonged treatment, however, and it is expected that the alcohol will breathe its last for this session in the next week or so.

KILLED BY EARTHQUAKES.

FIGURES COMPILED SINCE 1137 SHOW 1,096,000 HUMAN BEINGS SACRIFICED BY SEISMIC SHOCKS.

Since 1137, when the first reliable records apparently were made of such disasters, 1,096,000 persons have lost their lives by earthquakes. This total does not include the destruction wrought by kindred catastrophes like the burial of Pompeii and Herculaneum. In periods earlier than the twelfth century the losses were doubtless correspondingly great, at least, but history is vague or silent on these events. It is supposed by scientists that many years of the earth's surface now quiet were in ancient and primeval periods the scenes of terrific shocks.

No earlier earthquake remains recorded than that of 425 B. C., when the island of Euboea was formed. What loss of life there was then not even a legend relates. An earthquake accompanied the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 A. D. In 742 A. D. Syria, Palestine and other regions were devastated by a series of shocks which destroyed more than five thousand towns and hundreds of thousands of persons.

Sicily's earthquake in 1137 took fifteen thousand lives, and from that time history is complete with records of similar catastrophes. Earthquakes have occurred with greater frequency in volcanic districts, and particularly along the boundaries between great elevations and depressions. But such shocks are not confined to volcanic areas, and, indeed, they have often occurred in regions remote from them. One large zone particularly liable in earthquakes encircles the earth. It includes the Mediterranean lands, the Azores, the West Indies, Central America, the Sandwich Islands, Japan, China, India, Persia, and Asia Minor.

China's and Japan's losses have been enormous, and earthquakes there have been of such frequency as to excite little comment. The Japanese scientists have been diligent students of these phenomena, and the number of their opportunities is evident from the fact that between 1885 and 1892, when the closest observations were made, there were 8,331 earthquake shocks. In 1703, 200,000 Japanese lives were lost in the earthquake at Yeddo. Her latest great disaster of that kind was in 1891, when 10,000 persons perished in the Island of Honshu.

China's sufferings from earthquakes have been almost equally appalling. In 1731 there was a loss of 100,000 lives in Pekin and vicinity. In 1830 Canton was shattered and 6,000 persons died. Lesser disasters have followed with great frequency till the death roll has become enormous. In six minutes the city of Lisbon was laid in ruins in 1755, when 30,000 lives were lost. This great shock was felt over a wide area, even on the Baltic and in Great Britain. Sicily lost 60,000 persons

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NORRISTOWN, PA.

in 1768; Naples, 40,000 in 1456, 70,000 in 1628, and 6,000 in 1805. Sicily had a terrible disaster in 1693, when 100,000 persons died. Kashan, Persia, was stricken in 1755, and 40,000 lives lost. Panama lost 40,000 inhabitants in 1797; Aleppo, 20,000 in 1822; Ecuador and Peru, 25,000 in 1868. These are only the more costly disasters of the hundreds of earthquakes that have terrified and slain mankind. The Calabrian earthquake, beginning in 1783, continued for four years. In comparison with these stunning catastrophes the losses in the United States have thus far been paltry. The first earthquake of which there is any record in this country was in the San Joaquin Valley, California. The most notable shock before that of recent date was the one which on August 31, 1886, was felt from Florida to Canada and as far West as Iowa and Missouri. Charleston, S. C., was the chief sufferer, forty-one lives being lost and property being damaged to the extent of \$5,000,000.

New Hampshire and Vermont felt a slight shock of November 27, 1893. The Pacific coast has experienced many tremors. Various other parts of the country have been agitated infrequently by slight agitations that have entailed no losses to life or property.

ONE OF THE BEST

rules of life is that of promptness. To fix upon a time to do things and do them on time is like aiming at a nail and hitting it square on the head. The "any old time" plan is indefinite and always unsatisfactory. If you can begin to save dimes or dollars to draw upon in an emergency, do not rely on "some time" to make the start. Do it now! Indefinite postponement often means never, and puts wise intentions on the shelf. The

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will serve you as a safe and secure depository for your savings, and 3 per cent. interest on every day's deposit will be added to your principal as it grows in amount.

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	Guaranteed.	5 per cent.
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October 1905	4	5
February 1906	4	5
April 1906	4	5
	12	16

THE INTERNATIONAL LUMBER AND DEVELOPMENT CO. has therefore given to shareholders in 16 months 16 per cent., which is 4 per cent. more than was promised.

DIVIDENDS WILL INCREASE.

PRICE OF SHARES WILL ADVANCE.

As the development of this Great Plantation progresses, dividends will grow and the selling price of the stock will be advanced. Persons who buy now are entitled to the advantage of STOCK AT PAR. Those who wait must expect to pay more. Buying now means making a profit on the shares, by reason of the advance, in addition to getting splendid dividends. The other Plantations developed by the same management are paying handsome dividends. There are stockholders in Montgomery county who know, because they are receiving the dividends. It contains enough Mahogany and other costly woods to pay the guarantee 25 years. Shareholders are paying the experience of the managers in the other Plantations.

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AND SHOES in Vici and Patent Calf. FREED'S HEAVY SHOES for all.

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Hardware, Oils and Paints.
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Come and see us.

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Will meet trains at all Stations. Or-

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Full stock of harness supplies, saddles,

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FARMER'S AUTO.

Gasoline Engine Mounted on a

Homemade Truck.

My gasoline engine is a one and one-half horsepower machine. I built a truck for it out of an old steel binder. By buying a few extra bolts and a small wagon wheel and using the binder truck for front wheels I rigged up a truck for a few dollars. I put a plank platform on the truck. I used the same gearing that was used to run the binder, cut a hole through the platform and run a bolt from the engine down to the pulley. The outfit then moved itself nicely, and I should say a sprocket chain belt on, instead of a rubber belt, as the latter slips some in going up grades. A bevel friction to start with would be another improvement.

I put my engine to the following uses:

Pump water for our stock at a cost of

7 cents per week; saw pole wood at the

rate of—well, three of us went to the

woods and fastened down the buzz saw

machine and engine, at 9 o'clock we

started to saw, and at noon we were

through. After dinner we piled the

wood up four feet high, and the pile

was eighty-three feet long.

I go about the neighborhood cutting

corn fodder and doing odd jobs. I

have pumped water and moved some

ground several times. The engine has

paid for itself and is as good as ever.

It has been worth a great deal to me

in running grindstone, fanning mill,

corn sheller, etc.

Some folks think it pays to have an

engine only on a large farm, but a man

on a small farm can get along with less

hired help if he has an engine to help

him, concludes a writer who tells the

following story of his "farmer's auto"

in Farm Journal.

Alfalfa in Connecticut.

I took three and one-half acres of the

very highest, driest and poorest section

of my field, 100 feet above the water

line, and intensely cultivated it to the

depth of six inches or more. Then I

sowed twenty-five pounds of alfalfa

seed to the acre on the 24th of June

and 800 pounds of high grade fertilizer to

each acre. On July 24, fifty-two days

after seeding, I cut and cured 10,750

pounds of dry hay, and on Sept. 13 I

cut and cured 850 pounds more of

dry hay, or 21,600 pounds, almost eleven

tons, in 103 days from time of seed-

ing—it is safe to say three tons to the

acre of dry alfalfa hay. I would not

advise others to go into the cultivation

of alfalfa very extensively at first, yet

I think that there are many high and

dry fields in New England that could

be utilized in the production of alfalfa.

—George M. Clark in Farm and Ranch.

The Nero Apple.

Among the new varieties of apples

which are promising well is the Nero,

which is large, round to oblate. The

color is a yellow slightly tinged with

green, nearly covered with dull red,

having splashed deeper red and a dark

red blush. The flesh is firm, crisp, fine

grained, white, with yellow tinge, juicy,

pleasant and mildly aromatic. The

season for it is from December to

April, and it is one of the best of keep-

ers. Apples that were frozen all winter

have been found good when thawed

out, apparently not having deteriorat-

ed. At the Agricultural college this

was pronounced the best for eating

among sixty varieties. Though com-

paratively new it has been largely se-

lected in Delaware, Maryland and West

Virginia, where it has proved good. The

difficulty with it in these states is that

it is subject to bitter rot and drops

badly.—Michigan Farmer.

Corn Growing Contest.

The Kansas State Agricultural college

has announced a corn growing contest

for the Kansas farmer-boys. It is

hoped, with the co-operation of the

farmers' institutes, to reach the great-

est possible number of boys. Each

county organization will be expected

to furnish to each boy who applies for

placing sand soaked in kerosene—a cupful to a bucket of dry sand—at the base of the plants along the rows. This mixture will also kill young maggots that might attempt to work through it. Carbolic Acid Emulsion.—For all three forms of root maggots which we are considering a carbolicized form of kerosene emulsion is effective. This is prepared by adding to one gallon of soap boiled in one gallon of water one-half gallon of crude carbolic acid and diluting the whole with from thirty-five to fifty parts of water. This mixture is applied by calling to the stalks of the plants affected. It is best to use it a day or two after the plants are up or are transplanted, and repeat every week or ten days until about the third week in May in the north. Farther south these applications must be made earlier in the season.

The Use of Mineral Fertilizers.—Mineral fertilizers are useful as deterrents, particularly when employed just before or after a shower has thoroughly wet the ground. The principal fertilizers for this purpose are kainit, nitrate of soda and sulphate or chloride of potash. They may be used as top dressings before planting, or, if an employed until afterward, they should be applied as nearly as possible to the roots, the earth being turned away from the plants for this purpose.

Improved Marker.

The runners of this marker for corn,

beans, etc., are of ash, with pieces of

oak 1 by 4 nailed on top. The cross-

pieces are of spruce 1 by 6. One can

mark rows two and one-half, three,

three and one-half or four feet, with

gride pole to swing either way. What

makes this marker all the more valu-

able and really a short cut, according

to Farm Progress, are the cultivator

teeth to the rear of each runner. These

teeth are set one inch from the iron

shoe of the runner and bolted fast to

the 1 by 4 oak. They make a good,

soft seed bed.

Clover Without Nurse Crop.

A nurse crop is not necessary for ob-

taining a good catch of clover. In fact,

in a dry year it seems to be a decided

detriment, as it uses the moisture that

is necessary for the growth of the

young clover plant.—Hoard's Dairy-

man.

POPULAR GARDENING

Sowing seeds too deeply is one of the

most common mistakes of beginners

and is a sufficient reason why so much

of it fails to come up. All small seeds,

such as carrot, cabbage, lettuce, celery,

etc., should be left with an inch of

the surface; larger seeds, such as

peas, beans, corn and beets, within two

to three inches.

Thinning the fruit, plentiful feeding

and watering, careful prevention of in-

jury to the foliage—these are some of

the steps in growing large tomatoes.

By planting earlier and later vari-

eties a supply of corn may be ob-

tained until frost and a fine lot of fod-

der for the cow.

Have you an asparagus bed? No

vegetable is grown with greater ease

and certainty and none is better relish-

ed. Set fifty or 100 plants now. They

will give a full supply for years to

come.

Do not plant squash till the ground

has become thoroughly warm and on

rich, well manured soil only.

If lettuce were started under glass set

them in the open ground now as soon

as large enough to transplant.

Nitrate of soda is good for both cab-

bage and cauliflower.

Spring is the best time to set out a

bed of strawberries, and just as soon

as the ground is fit, and good plants

can be had.

WHEN THE DUNES WALK.

A Sand Storm Experience in the

Desert of Sahara.

To flee from a sand storm in the

midst of a drenching rain seems an

absurd performance. The Arab, however,

knows that when the rain stops the

dunes are apt to begin their most ter-

rible "walking." He seeks shelter

while there is yet time.

Our worst experience of the desert in

one of its mad fits, says the auto-

graph, "In the Desert," was on a morn-

ing, luckily for us perhaps, we were

near the large oasis of Nefta, near

the Tunisian frontier. The flapping of

the tent and the drumming of rain-

drops upon its awning, and the hiss of

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workmanship and materials that are the products of the best manufacturers